

Remarks

In the Office Action dated June 18, 2004, the Examiner rejected claims 1-24 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being anticipated by or in the alternative under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being obvious over Bullard U.S. Patent No. 6,625,657.

By this Amendment Applicants' Attorney has amended each of the independent claims to make it clear that aggregating is based on at least one of the invariant features such as either a source endpoint or a destination endpoint and wherein aggregating is based on distance of the measurement point within the routing infrastructure from the endpoint so that the network flow is profiled at the measurement point within the routing infrastructure in proportion to the distance to the measurement point from the endpoint.

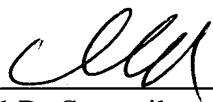
Clearly, this feature is neither taught, disclosed nor discussed by any of the references of record taken either alone or in combination with one another including the U.S. Patent to Bullard. Support for this feature can be found on pages 16 and 17 of the specification.

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Consequently, in view of the above and in the absence of better art Applicants' Attorney respectfully submits the application is in condition for allowance which allowance is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
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